palms, replanting with quality seedlings, adoption of fertiliser and plant protection measures and multispecies cropping system.

(4) Integrated control of leaf eating caterpillar

Multiplied and liberated 23 million parasites through biological laboratories in Orissa and Karnataka for control of serious pest viz., leaf eating caterpillar.

(5) Technology development centre

The research studies sponsored by the Board has resulted in developing technologies for coconut products like coconut cream, coconut water vinegar, skim milk powder, tender coconut water. These technologies are being commercialised. 172 copra dryers installed, 20 cooperative societies were given financial assistance for developing infrastructure facilities like copra yards, godowns, kilns etc. 40 units of Elaneer Pandals were assisted in Kerala for popularising consumption of tender coconut water.

(6) Publicity and Extension activities

The major thrust was given on popularising the use of coconut oil by dispelling the misconçeption that coconut oil consumption is harmful, creating awareness on various coconut products and by-products, scientific method of coconut cultivation, especially in non-traditional areas. As a result of the compaign the consumption of coconut oil for edible purpose increased by 200% during the last 3-4 years.

(7) A new office complex has been completed for housing the Headquarters of the Board functioning at Kochi, Kerala.

The Coconut Development Board has spent Rs. 52.73 crores for carrying out the above mentioned developmental activities during 1992-93 to 1995-96.

(b) For installation of drip irrigation system, Government of India is providing subsidy @ 90% of the cost of drip system or Rs. 25,000/- per ha. to SC and ST farmers, small and marginal farmers and women farmers in the current year. For other farmers the subsidy provided is @ 70% of the cost of drip system or Rs. 25,000/- per ha.

(c) and (d) The programmes being implemented by the Coconut Development Board during VIII Plan for increasing production and productivity of coconut in the country are :

(i) Expansion of area under coconut.

(ii) Production and distribution of quality planting material.

(iii) Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement.

(iv) Integrated control of leaf eating caterpiller.

These programmes are likely to continue during the 9th Plan.

[English]

Indo-Israel Agreement

627. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have entered into joint collaboration with Isreal for the development of agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details of the joint collaboration set up between both the countries ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) An Agreement was signed between India and Israel on 24.12.93 for cooperation in the field of Agriculture. The areas of cooperation include water and soil management, arid and semi-arid crop production, fruit and vegetable production, plant and animal sciences, veterinary science, farm mechanisation technology and agricultural research etc.

In addition, a Memorandum of Intent was signed between India and Israel on 30th December, 1996 for establishing a demonstration farm unit at the Indain Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, with the aim of developing viable technological packages and technology transfer for the small farmers and private sector.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review by the Government of the working of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(1)(i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General therein.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1364/97]

(3) A copy the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 908(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1996 under sub-section (3) of section 73 of the person with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1365/97]

Economic Survey–1995-96

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the 'Economic Survey–1995-96' (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1366/97]

Statement explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the State Farms Corporation of India, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the annual report and Audited Accounts of the State Farms Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1367/97]

(2) A copy of the Fertiliser Control (Amendment) Order, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 57(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd January, 1997 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1368/97]

Review by the Govt. of the Working of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corpn. Ltd., Bangalore for the year 1995-96 and Annual Report and Audited Accounts etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following paper (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of secrion 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1369/97]

Notification of the Border Security Force Sub-Inspector General Duty (Group C Posts) Recruitment Rules, 1994 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968 :

(i) The Border Security Force Sub-Inspector General Duty (Group 'C' Posts) Recruitment Rules,1994 published in Notification No.